

(d) The National Seeds Corporation was established in 1963 to produce foundation seeds of hybrids of maize and to encourage the production of certified seeds. The mandate of NSC has subsequently been expanded to the production of foundation and certified seeds of varieties of all-India importance for crops of cereal, vegetables, green manure and fodder. NSC undertake seed production mainly through contract growing arrangements with progressive farmers. It markets seeds through its own sale outlets and a large network of dealers.

On the other hand, the State Farms Corporation of India was established in 1969 to manage the running of Central Mechanised Farms set up with Russian assistance in the 1950s. While initially in the 1950s it was proposed that these farms should undertake production of foodgrains, the production programmes of SFCI have been reoriented to the production of quality seeds. At present, SFCI is engaged in multiplication of breeder, foundation and certified seeds in its own 12 farms spread all over the country comprising an area of 36141 hectares. SFCI has also established elite-progeny orchards for producing quality horticultural planting material. SFCI markets its seeds mainly through the State Governments or their agencies.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) In view of the position indicated above, the question does not arise.

(g) As explained in part (d), the National Seeds Corporation and the State Farms Corporation of India were set up in different contexts. While both the Corporations are mandated to produce and distribute quality seeds, their production and marketing strategies are different. NSC produces seeds mainly through contract growing arrangements with farmers. SFCI produces seeds directly on its own farms. Managerial expertise needed for contract growing of seeds is different from that needed for direct seed production.

Production of Pulses

4830. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current year's production of pulses is likely to fall substantially;

(b) if so, the estimated production of pulses likely to be achieved as against the target, State-wise;

(c) the major causes attributed to the fall in production target;

(d) the estimated gap between demand and supply as a result thereof; and

(e) the manner in which demand and supply gap is proposed to be met?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :

(a) The production of pulses in the country is expected to be about 14.0 million tonnes as against the targetted level of 15.0 million tonnes during 1996-97.

(b) A statement giving State-wise target and likely production of pulses during 1996-97 is enclosed.

(c) The reasons for shortfall in target of production of pulses are that pulses generally grown under rainfed conditions in less productive marginal lands where the crops often suffer due to moisture stress conditions. Besides, pulses are also more prone to damage by insects, pests and diseases. Because of the high risk involved, cultivation of pulses is generally done under low input use and inadequate management practices which affect the productivity.

(d) The gap between demand and supply of pulses in the country is estimated about two million tonnes.

(e) For increasing the production of pulses in the country, the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Project (NPDP). For propagation of improved pulses production technology, field demonstrations and farmers trainings are being organised. To motivate farmers for the adoption of improved pulses production technology, incentives on the use of certified seeds, rhizobium culture, micro nutrients, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets etc. are also provided. The Government also at times resorts to import of pulses to bridge the gap between demand and supply.

Statement

State-wise Target and likely production of Pulses during 1996-97.

(As on 9.4.97)
(000' Tonnes)

State	Target	Likely Production
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	780	618
Assam	65	78
Bihar	837	730
Gujarat	695	706
Haryana	535	482
Himachal Pradesh	15	32
Jammu & Kashmir	25	17

1	2	3
Karnataka	695	764
Kerala	40	32
Madhya Pradesh	3495	3147
Maharashtra	2249	1981
Orissa	520	290
Punjab	95	99
Rajasthan	1650	1935
Tamil Nadu	606	449
Uttar Pradesh	2490	2373
West Bengal	150	236
Others	58	53
All India	15000	14022

Delhi Police Budget

4831. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police budget for 1997-98 has been increased to Rs. 417 crore from the revised budget of Rs. 281 crore for 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details of the outlay for law and order, traffic management, providing VIP securities, licensing and foreign registration, separately; and

(c) whether Government are confident that increased outlay will remarkably improve the law and order situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The budget of Delhi Police was part of the budget of Government of NCT of Delhi upto 31.7.1996. From 1.8.1996 the budget of the Delhi Police was transferred to the Union Government. The provision made in the budget of the NCT of Delhi for the first four months of the financial year 1996-97 (i.e. upto 31.7.1996) was Rs. 113.33 crores. With the transfer of the budget of Delhi Police to the budget of the Union Government, an amount of Rs. 281 crores was provided in the budget of Ministry of Home Affairs, for the period 1.8.1996 to 31.3.1997. The total budget of Delhi Police for the financial year 1996-97, therefore, comes to Rs. 394.33 crores. As against this an amount of Rs. 417 crores has been provided in the budget of Ministry of Home Affairs for the financial year 1997-98.

(b) The following are the outlays:

- (i) Law & Order Rs. 130.91 cr.
(Distt. Police)

- (ii) Traffic Management Rs. 19.23 cr.
(iii) VIP Securities Rs. 21.18 cr.
(iv) Licensing Rs. 0.18 cr.
(v) Foreign Registration Rs. 4.68 cr.

(c) The availability of adequate resources with law enforcement agencies is an important factor which determines their efficacy.

Wheat Buffer Stock

4832. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is not self-sufficient to meet the demand of wheat of our country;

(b) if so, the extent to which;

(c) whether the Government's wheat stocks are below the minimum buffer stock norms;

(d) if so, the extent to which; and

(e) the details regarding the quantity of wheat decided to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The country has achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrains except in the case of pulses. It is difficult to precisely estimate the demand for a particular commodity, since this depends on various factors such as increase in population, per capita income, availability of substitutes and changes in consumption habit etc.

(c) and (d) The stock of wheat as on 1.4.97 is provisionally estimated at 32.40 lakh tonnes as against 37.00 lakh tonnes to be maintained by Public agencies under buffer stocking policy on foodgrains.

(e) Government, after considering the relevant factors like, stocks in the Central Pool, production, trend of procurement, requirement for Public Distribution System and other Welfare Schemes, open market prices etc., decided to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat in 1996-97. The State Trading Corporation of India has so far contracted for import of a quantity of 16.75 lakh tonnes from Australia, Canada and Argentina for 1996-97, and another 10 lakh tonnes from Australia for 1997-98.